

Brittany American Cemetery and Memorial

UNH LIBRARY



3 4600 01747 1753



The American Battle Monuments Commission

1957

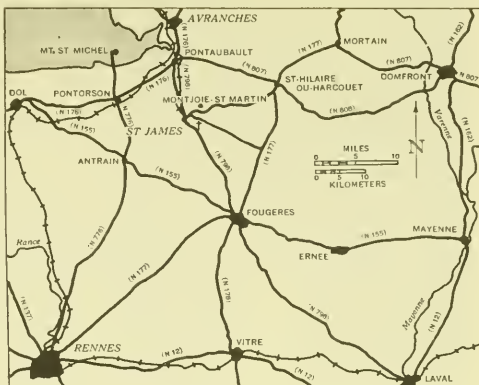
University of New Hampshire
Library



Memorial—West Facade.

p 940.24
45726

Brittany American Cemetery and Memorial



LOCATION

Brittany Cemetery is situated about a mile southeast of the village of St. James, Manche, 12 miles (19 km.) south of Avranches and 14 miles (22 km.) north of Fougères. It may be reached by automobile from Paris over N-12 to Fougères, thence N-798 to St. James, a total distance of 201 miles (324 km.) from Paris.

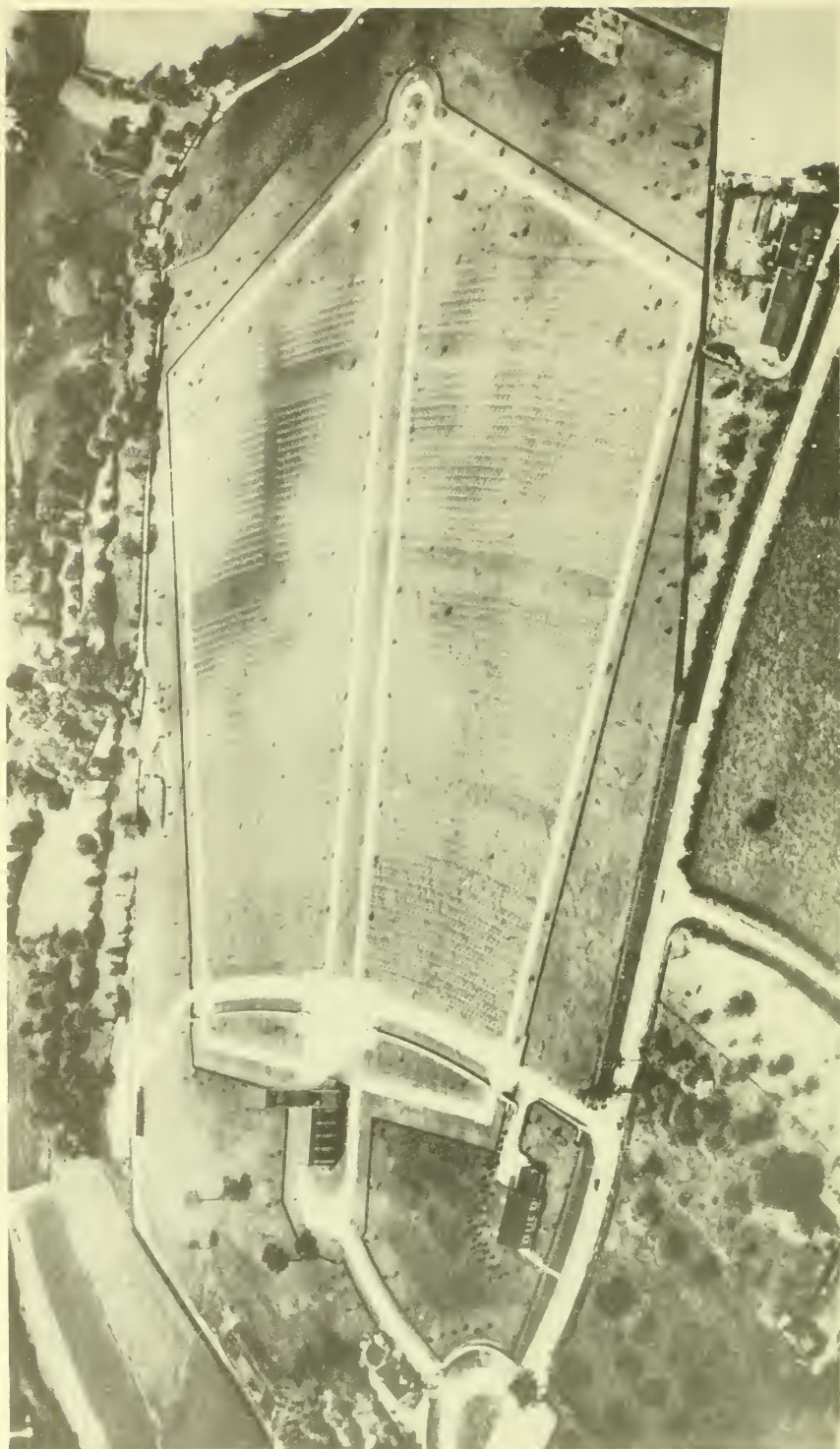
To reach the cemetery by railroad from Paris, take the train for either

Avranches or Pontorson, leaving Gare Montparnasse (Gare du Maine) and change at Folligny. Train time from Paris is approximately 5½ hours. Taxi service is available from both Avranches and Pontorson to the cemetery; there is also a bus service from Pontorson to the village of St. James, where taxi service is available to the cemetery.

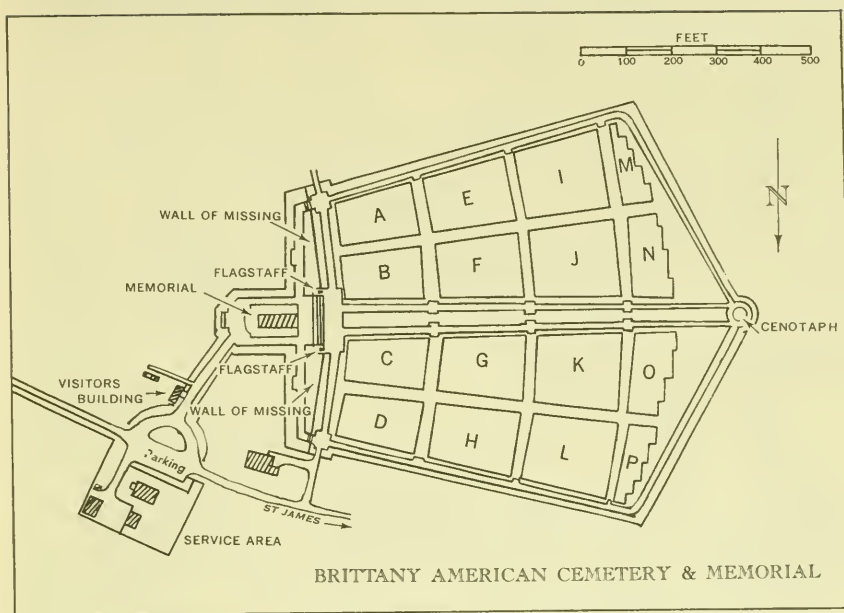
Hotel accommodations can be found at Avranches 12 miles (19 km.) north, Pontorson 10 miles (16 km.) west,

The Cenotaph.





Aerial View of Cemetery.



Location of Cemetery Features.

Mont St. Michel 15 miles (25 km.) northwest, and Fougères 14 miles (22 km.) south.

THE SITE

The cemetery site covers 28 acres in rolling farm country at the border between Brittany and Normandy.

Following the Allies' assault landings on the beaches of Normandy on 6 June 1944, a beachhead was built up extending roughly along an east-west line through St. Lô, some 40 miles (62 km.) to the north of the cemetery.

On 25 July 1944, while the British pinned down the enemy in the eastern portion of the beachhead toward Caen, the American forces broke out at the west end and surged southward. Avranches was captured on 31 July whereupon the American Third and First Armies fanned out westward toward Brest, southward toward the Loire, and eastward toward the Seine.

The site of the cemetery lay in the sector of the 8th Division and was liberated on 2 August 1944.

At Brittany cemetery rest 4,410 of

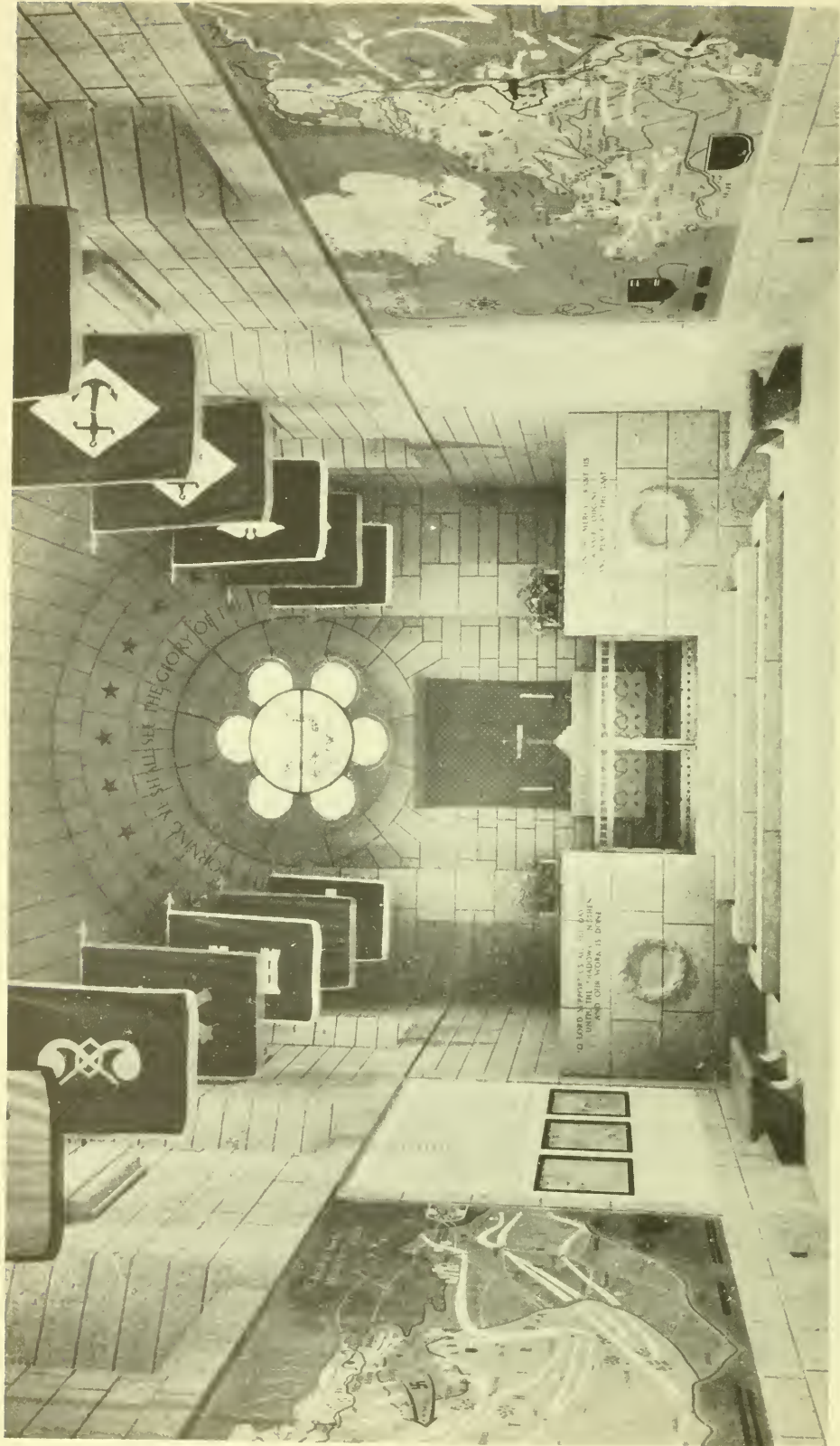
our Dead, representing 43% of those who were originally buried in temporary cemeteries in the region extending from the beachhead westward to Brest and eastward to the Seine.

ARCHITECT

Architect for the cemetery and memorial was William T. Aldrich of Boston, Mass. The landscape architects were Shurcliff and Shurcliff, also of Boston.

GENERAL LAYOUT

The cemetery entrance is reached over highways which run between the characteristic hedgerows of the region. Opposite the main entrance is the utilities area. Immediately inside the main gate is the Visitors' Building beyond which lie the cemetery and the memorial. Some distance to the east of the Visitors' Building are the reservoirs and pumping station; the water is lifted to the reservoirs from the bed of the Beuvron stream in the valley beyond the cemetery.



The Memorial Interior.

The Memorial

EXTERIOR

The memorial consists of a nave and tower of local La Pyrie granite, and strongly recalls the typical ecclesiastical architecture of the region. At the east end is a sculpture group—Youth Triumphant Over Evil, designed by Lee Lawrie of Easton, Md., and executed by Jean Juge of Paris; the sculpture is in Chauvigny limestone from the region of Poitiers. In its granite base is carved the inscription: I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT ☆ I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE ☆ I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH (2 Timothy iv, 7).

Over the main door to the memorial is a sculpture group, also by Lee Lawrie, consisting of an eagle, shield, stars, laurel and arrows taken from the Great Seal of the United States; the shield is flanked by two floating Victories. The one to the left of the observer, wearing the Columbian cap, is mourning and holds in her right hand the laurel of the brave, and in her left hand the palm of sacrifice. The figure to the right is a triumphant Victory, her upper body clothed in mail and wearing a helmet; her right hand holds a sword, her left hand a trumpet. Accompanying this sculpture group is the inscription: IN MEMORY OF THE VALOR AND THE SACRIFICES WHICH CONSECRATE THIS SOIL. These sculpture features also were executed by Jean Juge.

INTERIOR

Inside the main door and to the right of the antechamber is a small room with a stained-glass window containing the figure of St. James of Compostello. On the east wall is engraved the dedicatory inscription in French and English, of which this is the English version:

1941-1945 ☆ IN PROUD REMEMBRANCE
OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HER SONS
AND IN HUMBLE TRIBUTE TO THEIR

SACRIFICES THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN
ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA.

On the opposite wall is this prayer:

O GOD WHO ART THE AUTHOR OF PEACE
AND LOVER OF CONCORD, DEFEND US
THY HUMBLE SERVANTS IN ALL
ASSAULTS OF OUR ENEMIES, THAT WE
SURELY TRUSTING IN THY DEFENSE
MAY NOT FEAR THE POWER OF ANY
ADVERSARIES.

Immediately above the main entrance door is a stained-glass window containing the emblem of SHAEF—the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force.

To the left of the antechamber is the stairway up the tower.

MEMORIAL ROOM

Beyond the antechamber is the memorial room. Projecting from its walls are the flags of these components of our military services during World War II: Air Corps; Armor; Cavalry; Chemical Warfare Service; Coast Artillery Corps; Corps of Engineers; Field Artillery; Chaplains, Christian; Chaplains, Jewish; Infantry; Medical Department; Navy Artillery Battalion; Navy Infantry Battalion; Ordnance Department; Quartermaster Corps; Signal Corps.

Immediately above the entrance are the American, British and French national flags, and the engraved inscription: DUTY ☆ HONOR ☆ COUNTRY.

Within the memorial room, and on the wall south of the doorway is engraved this extract from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's D-day prayer on the occasion of the invasion of Normandy:

ALMIGHTY GOD: OUR SONS, PRIDE OF
OUR NATION, THIS DAY HAVE SET UPON
A MIGHTY ENDEAVOR, A STRUGGLE TO



The Regional Operations Map.

PRESERVE OUR REPUBLIC, OUR RELIGION, AND OUR CIVILIZATION.

THEY WILL BE SORE TRIED, BY NIGHT AND BY DAY, WITHOUT REST—UNTIL THE VICTORY IS WON. SOME WILL NEVER RETURN. EMBRACE THESE, FATHER, AND RECEIVE THEM, THY HEROIC SERVANTS, INTO THY KINGDOM.

On the corresponding wall north of the doorway is engraved this extract from General Eisenhower's final report to the Combined Chiefs of Staff:

MORE IMPORTANT THAN WEAPONS WAS THE INDOMITABLE FIGHTING SPIRIT OF THE MEN WHO WIELDED THEM. THE COURAGE AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WHICH THEY EXHIBITED THROUGHOUT THE CAMPAIGN WERE UNSURPASSABLE.

TO THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES, AND TO THOSE WHO BEAR THE WOUNDS OF BATTLE, WE, THEIR COMRADES IN ARMS, RENDER MOST GRATEFUL AND HUMBLE TRIBUTE.

Windows of stained glass, four on each side, depict the coats of arms of eight towns or cities liberated by the American (and French) forces during these operations; viz, Carentan, Cherbourg, St. Lô, Mont St. Michel, Mortain, Paris, Chartres, and Brest. Each window also illustrates a characteristic feature of the respective towns. All of the stained glass in the memorial was designed and fabricated by Francois Lorin of Chartres, France.

On the north wall of the museum is a map THE BREAKOUT FROM THE BEACHHEAD AND ADVANCE TO THE SEINE. Both this and the map on the south wall were designed by Edward Shenton of West Chester, Pa., and fabricated by the Earley Studios of Rosslyn, Va. The background is of concrete with various brilliantly colored aggregates into which have been set bronze lettering, other metal features, enameled panels, etc. To assist in understanding the map, which is



The Overall Operations Map.

actually designed in perspective as seen from the south, is an inscription in English and French, of which the following is the English version:

ON 6 JUNE 1944, UNITED STATES AND BRITISH COMMONWEALTH FORCES CROSSED THE ENGLISH CHANNEL TO ENTER OCCUPIED FRANCE. THIS WAS THE CULMINATION OF MONTHS OF PREPARATION AND NATIONWIDE EFFORT. AS THE VAST ARMADA MOVED TOWARD THE NORMANDY BEACHES, ONE BRITISH AND TWO AMERICAN AIRBORNE DIVISIONS DROPPED IN THE DARKNESS TO COVER THE DEPLOYMENT FROM THE BEACHES. AT 0630 HOURS, UNDER COVER OF CONCENTRATED AERIAL AND NAVAL BOMBARDMENT, THREE AMERICAN, ONE CANADIAN, AND TWO BRITISH DIVISIONS STORMED ASHORE.

THE ASSAULTING FORCES, DESPITE DESPERATE RESISTANCE, DROVE VALIANTLY INLAND AND WITHIN A WEEK LINKED UP THE INDIVIDUAL BEACHES. TURNING NORTH, AMERICAN UNITS, AIDED BY NAVAL AND AIR BOMBARDMENT, CAPTURED CHERBOURG WHILE OTHER ALLIED FORCES HACKED OUT THE BEACHHEAD TO A DEPTH OF 20 MILES AGAINST TENACIOUS OPPOSITION

IN THE AGGRESSIVELY DEFENDED HEDGEROWS. THE ENEMY'S EFFORTS TO RUSH REINFORCEMENTS TO HIS MENACED ARMIES WERE PERSISTENTLY DISRUPTED BY ATTACKS BY THE U. S. EIGHTH AND NINTH AIR FORCES AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, EXTENDING FAR TO HIS REAR, ON BRIDGES, HIGHWAYS, AND RAILROADS.

ON 25 JULY THE U. S. FIRST ARMY LAUNCHED THE ATTACK TO BREAK OUT OF THE BEACHHEAD. BLASTED ALONG A FIVE-MILE FRONT WEST OF ST. LO BY A PARALYZING AIR BOMBARDMENT, THE ENEMY GAVE WAY BEFORE THE FURIOUS GROUND ASSAULT WHICH FOLLOWED. JOINING IN THE ATTACK, THE U. S. THIRD ARMY THRUST RAPIDLY SOUTHWARD TOWARD THE LOIRE. NEAR MORTAIN A POWERFUL COUNTER-ATTACK, INTENDED BY THE GERMANS TO CUT OFF OUR ADVANCING COLUMNS, WAS REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSSES. THEN, WHILE THE ARMIES IN THE BEACHHEAD CONTINUED TO PRESS FORWARD, AMERICAN FORCES SWUNG UP FROM THE SOUTH TOWARD ARGENTAN. THREATENED WITH ENCIRCLEMENT, POUNDED INCESSANTLY BY WAVES OF AIRCRAFT, THE ENEMY STROVE DESPERATELY TO ESCAPE TO

THE EAST BUT BY 21 AUGUST HIS TROOPS IN THE FALAISE POCKET HAD BEEN ANNIHILATED AS A FIGHTING FORCE.

AS THE ALLIED FORCES STEADILY GREW IN STRENGTH THEIR SWEEP ACROSS FRANCE GAINED MOMENTUM. BY 25 AUGUST THEY HAD CROSSED THE SEINE, HAD LIBERATED PARIS, AND WERE IN FULL PURSUIT TOWARD THE GERMAN BORDER.

ALREADY THE UNITED STATES AND ALLIED NAVIES HAD TRANSPORTED OR ESCORTED TO NORMANDY MORE THAN 3,000,000 TONS OF SUPPLIES AND 2,000,000 TROOPS TOGETHER WITH THEIR ARTILLERY, TANKS, AND VEHICLES.

Beneath the inscriptions are the key maps, the three "The War against Germany" on the left, the three "The War against Japan" on the right.

On the opposite wall is a map "Military Operations in Western Europe" showing the progress of the military operations in northern France and northwest Europe from the landings in Normandy to the end of the war, together with descriptive texts in English and French, of which the following is the English version:

IN THE WAKE OF THE SWIFT ALLIED ADVANCE ACROSS NORTHERN FRANCE STRONG ENEMY GARRISONS STUBBORNLY CLUNG TO MANY LARGE SEAPORTS. THUS DENIED ADEQUATE HARBORS THE ALLIES HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO UNLOAD THEIR SUPPLIES AND REINFORCEMENTS OVER THE NORMANDY BEACHES OR THROUGH THE SINGLE CRIPPLED PORT OF CHERBOURG. THE EFFICIENT PERFORMANCE OF THE TREMENDOUS TASKS PLACED UPON SUPPLY PERSONNEL OF THE ARMY AND NAVY WAS A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE SWEEPING VICTORY WHICH LIBERATED FRANCE.

ALTHOUGH HANDICAPPED BY RAPIDLY LENGTHENING SUPPLY LINES, THE ALLIED FORCES, AIDED BY AIR LIFT, MAINTAINED THEIR VIGOROUS PURSUIT OF THE FLEEING ENEMY. BY MID-SEPTEMBER 1944 THE BRITISH AND

CANADIANS HAD CLEARED THE CHANNEL COAST, EXCEPT FOR A FEW ISOLATED PORTS, HAD CAPTURED THE CITY OF ANTWERP, AND HAD ENTERED HOLLAND. THE U. S. FIRST ARMY OF THE 12TH ARMY GROUP HAD SWEEPED THROUGH FRANCE, BELGIUM, AND LUXEMBOURG, AND WAS STANDING ON THE THRESHOLD OF GERMANY, WHILE THE U. S. THIRD ARMY IN A SWIFT ADVANCE HAD REACHED THE MOSELLE. ON THE RIGHT FLANK, THE 6TH ARMY GROUP (U. S. SEVENTH AND FRENCH FIRST ARMIES), ROLLING NORTHWARD FROM THE BEACHES OF SOUTHERN FRANCE, HAD JOINED FORCES WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY AT SOMBERNON. IN BRITTANY THE RECENTLY ACTIVATED U. S. NINTH ARMY, ASSISTED BY AIR AND NAVAL BOMBARDMENT, WAS BESIEGING BREST WHOSE GARRISON SURRENDERED ON 18 SEPTEMBER.

THE NEXT THREE MONTHS SAW BITTER FIGHTING IN THE EFFORT TO BREAK THROUGH THE GERMAN FRONTIER DEFENSES. ON 11 SEPTEMBER THE ALLIED ARMIES SET FOOT ON GERMAN SOIL. ON 17 SEPTEMBER THE ALLIED FIRST AIRBORNE ARMY DROPPED IN THE EINDHOVEN-ARNHEM AREA IN A GALANT BUT UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO OUTFLANK THE FORTIFIED SIEGFRIED LINE. BY DOGGED EFFORT THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY, THE CANADIAN FIRST ARMY, AND THE NEWLY ARRIVED U. S. NINTH ARMY REACHED THE MEUSE AND ROER RIVERS. THE U. S. FIRST ARMY FOUGHT ITS WAY THROUGH THE SIEGFRIED LINE TO REACH AACHEN AND THE HURTGEN FOREST. THE FORTRESS OF METZ FELL AS THE U. S. THIRD ARMY PUSHED TO THE SAAR. FARTHER SOUTH THE 6TH ARMY GROUP CAPTURED STRASBOURG AND MULHOUSE.

ON 16 DECEMBER THE ENEMY MADE HIS LAST DESPERATE EFFORT TO STAVE OFF DISASTER. PREPARED IN GREATEST SECRECY AND LAUNCHED UNDER COVER OF FOG AND RAIN, HIS ATTACK IN THE ARDENNES WAS INITIALLY SUCCESSFUL. PROMPT DECISIVE MEASURES AND THE SUPERB FIGHTING QUALITIES OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN TURNED THE GERMAN ADVANCE INTO RETREAT. THE CONCURRENT GERMAN



Memorial Interior, Mont St. Michel Window.

OFFENSIVE BETWEEN SAARBRUCKEN AND COLMAR MET THE SAME FATE.

DURING FEBRUARY AND EARLY MARCH THE WEST BANK OF THE RHINE WAS CLEARED IN A SERIES OF BRILLIANTLY SUCCESSFUL TACTICAL OPERATIONS. ON 7 MARCH AMERICAN FORCES SEIZED A BRIDGE AT REMAGEN. A SURPRISE CROSSING WAS EFFECTED AT OPPENHEIM ON 22 MARCH. IN THE NEXT TWO DAYS ALLIED TROOPS ASSISTED BY NAVAL LANDING CRAFT STAGED ASSAULT CROSSINGS FARTHER DOWNSTREAM AND THEN SURGED FORWARD TO ISOLATE THE ENTIRE RUHR VALLEY REGION AND ITS DEFENDING FORCES BY A DOUBLE ENVELOPMENT. WITH AIR AND GROUND FORCES OPERATING AS A TEAM THE ALLIED FORCES SWEEP ACROSS GERMANY TO MEET THE ADVANCING TROOPS OF THE U. S. S. R. AT THE ELBE, ENTER CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND AUSTRIA, AND FORCE THE COMPLETE SURRENDER OF ALL GERMAN FORCES CONFRONTING THEM ON 8 MAY, 337 DAYS AFTER THE INITIAL LANDINGS IN NORMANDY.

The map also bears this significant reminder of the part played by the Strategic Air Forces:

FROM 1942 TO 1945 THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE INCESSANTLY ATTACKED DEEP INTO ENEMY TERRITORY TO DISLOCATE AND DESTROY HIS MILITARY AND INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS.

THE CHAPEL

At the far end of the museum, and separated from it by a granite screen and wrought iron gates, is the chapel. The granite screen bears this inscription:

O LORD SUPPORT US ALL THE DAY LONG
UNTIL THE SHADOWS LENGTHEN AND
OUR WORK IS DONE ☆ THEN IN THY
MERCY GRANT US A SAFE LODGING AND
PEACE AT THE LAST

The altar is of French Hauteville Perle limestone from the Juras. Between the circular stained-glass window, containing the seal of the United States, and the altar is a blue and gold damask hanging. Above the circular window is the inscription from Exodus XVI, 7: IN THE MORNING YE SHALL SEE THE GLORY OF THE LORD.

THE TOWER

The tower has an overall height of 99 feet. The lookout platform, 63 feet above the ground, is reached from the antechamber by a stairway of 98 steps and landings. From the platform Mont St. Michel, 15 miles to the northwest, is ordinarily clearly visible. The tower also affords an impressive view of the stately pattern of the headstones extending before the memorial, as well as of the peaceful surrounding countryside.

THE WALL OF THE MISSING

Along the curved retaining wall of the memorial terrace are inscribed the name, rank, organization, and State of 498 of our Missing:

United States Army and Army Air Forces,¹ 449

United States Navy, 48

United States Coast Guard, 1

These men have given their lives in the service of their Country but their remains have not been identified. They came from every State in the Union except Nevada and New Hampshire, as well as from the District of Columbia and Canada.

Below the flagstaffs is this inscription, together with the French translation:

HERE ARE RECORDED THE NAMES OF
AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN
THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY AND
WHO SLEEP IN UNKNOWN GRAVES
1941-1945

These inscription panels are of Beaumont stone from southwestern France.

THE GRAVES AREA

The 4,408 headstones are set in 16 plots, curving from the central mall. These Dead who gave their lives in our

Country's service came from every State in the Union, the District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii.

Ninety-five of the headstones mark graves of "Unknowns," 2 of these graves each contain the remains of 2 Unknowns who could not be separately identified.

Here also, in 20 instances, 2 brothers rest side by side.

At the lower end of the mall is a Cenotaph, also of La Pyrie granite, bearing a torch and wreath and the superscription PRO PATRIA 1941-1945, designed by Lee Lawrie. This work was executed by the French sculptor Augustin Beggi.

PLANTING

The cemetery is surrounded by a Hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacantha*) hedge with an interior hedge of Boxwood (*Buxus sempervirens*) enclosing the grave plots. The space of varying width between the two hedges is planted with shade trees, both evergreen and deciduous, including Giant Sequoia (*Sequoia gigantea*), White Fir (*Abies concolor*), Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), Holly Oak (*Quercus ilex*), Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Purple Beech (*Fagus sylvatica purpurea*), European Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), European Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), European Oak (*Quercus robur*) and European Elm (*Ulmus procera*). In the broad grass walks dividing the grave plots are flowering trees which bloom from late spring far into the summer. These include flowering Crabapple (*Malus floribunda*), Double Hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacantha flora plena*), Pagoda Tree (*Sophora japonica*), Golden Rain Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) and Yellow Wood Tree (*Cladrastus lutea*). The central mall of the cemetery and the perimeter of the grave plots are lined with rows of European Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*).

Construction of the cemetery and memorial was completed in 1956.

¹ It will be recalled that during World War II the Air Forces still formed part of the United States Army.



*Youth Triumphant Over Evil—Brittany Memorial.
(Lee Lawrie, Sculptor.)*

AMERICAN MILITARY Cemeteries & Memorials OF WORLD WAR II

THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION is responsible to the people of the United States for the construction and permanent maintenance of military cemeteries and memorials built by the United States Government on foreign soil. It is not responsible

for construction, maintenance, or operation of cemeteries in the continental United States or its Territories and possessions.

After World War I the American Battle Monuments Commission erected a memorial chapel in each of the eight



To the Missing—World War II Loggia—Suresnes. (Lewis Iselin, Sculptor.)

military cemeteries already established by the War Department, as well as eleven monuments and two bronze tablets on the battlefields and elsewhere, to record the achievements of our Armed Forces.¹

By the end of World War II several hundred temporary cemeteries had been established by the American Graves Registration Service of the United States Army. During the years 1947 to 1954 that Service, complying with the expressed wishes of the next-of-kin, and by authority of law, repatriated the remains of some 171,000, representing 61 per cent of the recovered bodies. The remaining 39 per cent were given final interment in the cemeteries on foreign soil; and in the

cemeteries at Honolulu, Sitka and Puerto Rico (which remain under Army control).

Fourteen sites in foreign countries were selected as permanent cemeteries in 1947 by the Secretary of the Army, with the assistance of the American Battle Monuments Commission. Their locations reflect the progress of the

¹ These were: Cemeteries: Brookwood, England; Suresnes, Oise-Aisne (Fere-en-Tardenois), Aisne-Marne (Belleau), Somme (Bony), St. Mihiel (Thiaucourt), Meuse-Argonne (Romagne), France; Waregem, Belgium. Monuments: Brest, Cantigny, Bellicourt, Chateau-Thierry, Somme-Py, Montfaucon, Montsec, Tours, France; Kemmel, Audenarde, Belgium; Gibraltar. Tablets: Chaumont, Souilly, France.

military operations; they were selected with a view to their accessibility, aspect, prospect, drainage, and other practical considerations. In every case use of the site in perpetuity was granted by the host government to the United States, free of cost, rent, and taxes. The remainder of the “temporary”

cemetery sites reverted to the landowners upon completion of reburial operations.

The fourteen permanent World War II cemeteries with numbers of graves including Unknowns, and the numbers of Missing recorded at the Memorials are:

	<i>Dead</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>List of Missing</i>
Cambridge, England	3,811 including	24	5, 125
Normandy (near St. Laurent sur Mer, Calvados), France.	9,386 including	307	1, 557
Brittany (near St. James, Manche), France.	4,410 including	95	498
Epinal, France	5,255 including	69	424
Lorraine (at St. Avoild, Moselle), France.	10,489 including	151	444
Rhône (at Draguignan, Var), France.	861 including	62	293
Netherlands (near Margraten), Holland.	8,301 including	105	1, 722
Henri-Chapelle, Belgium	7,989 including	89	451
Ardenes (near Neuville-en-Condruz), Belgium.	5,244 including	744	465
Luxembourg (at Hamm, near Luxembourg), Luxembourg.	5,076 including	101	372
Florence, Italy	4,402 including	212	1, 409
Sicily-Rome (Nettuno, near Rome), Italy.	7,860 including	488	3, 095
North Africa (near Carthage), Tunisia.	2,840 including	240	3, 725
Philippines (near Manila)	17,178 including	3, 744	36, 269

In addition, 24 Unknowns of World War II were interred in the World War I cemetery at Suresnes, near Paris.²

The following World War II cemeteries are maintained by the Department of the Army:

	<i>Dead</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>List of Missing</i>
Honolulu, T. H. ³	13,510 including	2, 009	18, 106
Puerto Rico	69		
Sitka, Alaska	72 including	5	

In 1947 the American Battle Monuments Commission selected fourteen outstanding American architects, each

to design one of the cemeteries, conceiving the graves plots and a monument as complementary elements of an

² See page 18 concerning World War II memorial.
³ See page 21 concerning memorial.



integral memorial to the services and sacrifices of the American Armed Services who fought in the respective regions. Upon approval of the general schemes by the Commission, and by agreement with the Secretary of the Army, the architects' plans of the graves plots were followed by the American Graves Registration Service

in making the permanent burials of those remains which, by decision of the next-of-kin, were to remain overseas. This timely cooperation of the two agencies contributed appreciably to the coherence of the development of the cemetery designs.

Beginning in the latter half of 1949, the permanent interments having been



virtually completed, the cemeteries were progressively transferred to the American Battle Monuments Commission by Executive Order, for construction and maintenance. Thereupon the remaining portions of the architects' designs were carried out, step by step—grading; installation of a system of reinforced-concrete beams on piles

to maintain the levels and alignments of the headstones; fabrication and installation of the headstones; construction of water-supply and distribution systems; utilities buildings; roads and paths; plantings; and the erection of the memorials.

To provide against dry seasons and the occasional real drought, each ceme-

tery is equipped with storage reservoirs and a high-pressure sprinkling system.

For the design of the various memorials no specific requirement was imposed upon the architects beyond the budgeted cost, except that each should embody these features:

A small devotional chapel.

Inscription of the names and particulars of the Missing in the region.

A graphic record, in permanent form, of the services of our troops.

These requirements have been interpreted in a wide, and interesting, variety of forms.

An important motive for the construction of the memorials was the implied undertaking by our Government to record by monuments the achievements of our Armed Services, since, by Department orders, the erection of monuments by the troops (which unfortunately have been found to be often poorly-designed, poorly constructed and lacking provision for maintenance) was expressly forbidden. The "permanent graphic" record takes the form of maps, usually quite large murals, amplified by descriptive texts in English as well as the language of the country in which the cemetery is situated. The historical data (in the form of map layouts and texts) were prepared by the American Battle Monuments Commission; the maps were rendered in tasteful presentation by experienced artists. In no two cases is the method—or even the materials—the same; the map may be of layered marbles, or in fresco, perhaps in bronze relief, or in ceramics. Another feature of interest at each memorial is the two sets of "Key-Maps": "The War Against Germany" and "The War Against Japan". Each set consists of three maps, each covering about one-third of the period of our participation in the war. By these Key-Maps each major battle may be related to all others in time and space.

With each architect an American landscape architect, an American

sculptor and an American muralist or painter ordinarily collaborated. Their talents have made a major contribution to the beauty and dignity of the Memorials all of which are dedicated to the memory of the achievements of those who served and of the sacrifices of those who died. The construction of the cemeteries and memorials, as well as of most of the works of art, was effected by local contractors and artists under the supervision of the Commission.

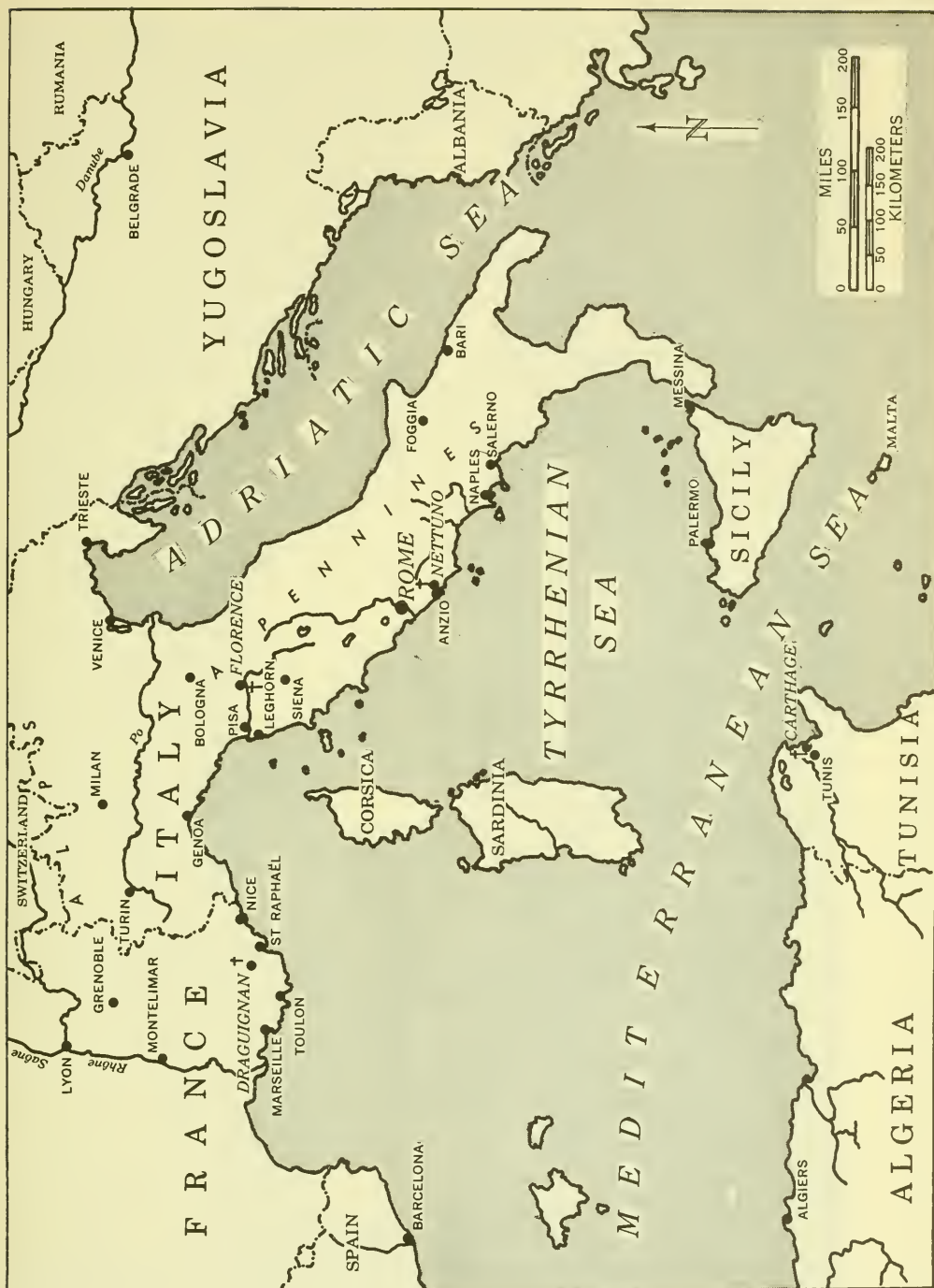
Each grave is marked by a headstone of white marble, of the same designs as those used in the overseas cemeteries of World War I—a Star of David for those of Jewish faith, a Latin Cross for all others. These headstones were quarried and fabricated in the Italian Tyrol, northwest of Venice, except about one-half of those at the Philippines cemetery which came from the region of Carrara in western Italy. Each headstone bears the deceased's name, rank, service number, organization, date of death, and State or Territory from which he entered the military service. Headstones of the Unknowns, i. e., those remains which could not be identified, bear the inscription: HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY A COMRADE IN ARMS KNOWN BUT TO GOD.

The lists of Missing (which include the unidentified and those lost and buried at sea) give name, rank, organization and State; the conditions under which death occurred were usually such as to deny the possibility of recording the exact date.

In addition to the fourteen World War II cemeteries and Memorials, the American Battle Monuments Commission program includes the following:

SURESNES

As previously stated, 24 World War II Unknowns were interred in this World War I cemetery. Here, where senior representatives of the French and United States Governments on ceremonial occasions pay homage to our Dead, the World War I chapel was, by addition of two loggias, converted





"Memory"—World War II Memorial Chamber—Suresnes. (Lewis Iselin, Sculptor.)

into a shrine to commemorate our Dead of both wars.

The wall of the World War II loggia bears this inscription:

TO THE ETERNAL MEMORY OF 358,967 AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY DURING WORLD WAR II. OF THIS HOST 106,757 REST IN EIGHTEEN OVERSEAS MILITARY CEMETERIES. THE REMAINS OF 174,426 WERE RETURNED TO THEIR HOMELAND. OF THOSE RESTING IN THE OVERSEAS MILITARY CEMETERIES 8,494 HAVE NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED. THEIRS ARE AMONG THE 78,966 NAMES OF THOSE MISSING IN ACTION OR LOST OR BURIED AT SEA WHICH ARE RECORDED UPON THE WALLS OF THE CEMETERY MEMORIALS. * * * INTO THY HANDS O LORD.

Within the World War II memorial chamber is engraved:

THIS MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN PROUD AND GRATEFUL MEMORY OF HER SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES AND AIRMEN WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES IN ALL QUARTERS OF THE EARTH THAT OTHER PEOPLES MIGHT BE FREED FROM OPPRESSION * * * LET US HERE HIGHLY RESOLVE THAT THESE HONORED DEAD SHALL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN.

EAST COAST MEMORIAL

To commemorate those 4,596 Americans who, in or above the waters off the east coasts of North and South America, gave their lives in the service of their Country their names and particulars are to be inscribed on a memorial to be erected at New York.

WEST COAST MEMORIAL

Similarly, the names and particulars of those 412 Americans who gave their lives in the service of their Country off the west coasts of the Americas will be recorded at a memorial to be erected at San Francisco.

HONOLULU MEMORIAL

Although the military cemetery at Honolulu is maintained by the Department of the Army, the American Battle Monuments Commission, by agreement with the Secretary of the Army, will erect a memorial therein, similar in objects to those built in the other overseas cemeteries. Buried at the cemetery are 13,510 Dead of World War II and 1,200 who died in the Korean operations; the Memorial will record 18,106 Missing of World War II and 8,000 Missing in Korea. The memorial will also embody the customary chapel and maps.

MAINTENANCE

Permanent maintenance of the cemeteries is a responsibility of the American Battle Monuments Commission. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in each case are American war veterans.

At each cemetery there is a Visitors' Building, with comfortably furnished reception room. Here visitors may be informed as to the location of graves (or inscription of the Missing) at any overseas cemetery.

The cemeteries are open every day of the year. Photography is permitted at the cemeteries and monuments without special authorization, except when photography is to be used for commercial purposes—in such case permission must be obtained from the Commission's local office.

Unlike the national cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, there can be no further burials in the American military cemeteries overseas except of those remains which may, in the future, be found on the battlefields.

FLOWERS

In the general interest, the decoration of graves with natural cut flowers only is permitted. The Commission is happy to assist interested persons to arrange with local florists in foreign

countries for placing such decorations. Requests should be mailed so as to arrive at the appropriate Commission office at least 5 days before the date of decoration and should be accompanied by check or international money order in dollars or local currency. Deposits may be made for a single decoration on a particular day—birthday, Memorial Day, Christmas Day, for example—or for several decorations on particular dates within the year or over a period of years. Checks should be made payable to “The American Battle Monuments Commission, Flower Fund”, money orders to “The American Battle Monuments Commission”. Requests should be addressed to the Commission’s Paris office, except in the case of Florence, Sicily-Rome (Nettuno) and North Africa (Carthage) Cemeteries where the Rome office is responsible, and Manila where the Manila office is responsible.

Orders for flowers for all cemeteries may also be placed through any local

florist who is a member of the “Florists Telegraph Delivery Association.” In addition to the name of the deceased, the rank, service number, name of the cemetery, country in which located, and the location by plot, row, and grave should be provided if known.

Further information regarding cemeteries and memorials may be obtained at the Commission’s offices in Washington, Paris, Rome, or Manila. Visitors passing through these cities are invited to call. The Commission’s representatives there may be of some assistance in verifying travel routes and schedules, and also in furnishing information concerning overnight accommodations.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Upon the request of the bona fide next of kin, the Commission will furnish one photograph of the appropriate headstone or inscription engraved on the Wall of the Missing.

Suresnes Memorial With World War I and II Loggias.



THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

United States Office

Washington 25, D. C.
Telephone: Liberty 5-6700
Extension 63679
Telegrams: Monuments, Washington

Mediterranean Office

American Embassy,
Via Veneto, Rome
Telephone: 414, Extension 156
Telegrams: Monuments, Rome

European Office

20 rue Quentin Bauchart
Paris, 8^e, France
Telephone: Balzac 0700
Telegrams: Monuments, Paris

Philippine Office

American Military Cemetery,
Manila, P. I.
Telephone: 5-02-12
Telegrams: AMBAMCOM, Manila,
P. I.

THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Established by Congress March 1923

Membership (December 1956)

George C. Marshall, *Chairman*
Thomas C. Kinkaid, *Vice Chairman*
Leslie L. Biffle
Alexander A. Vandegrift
Charles E. Potter
John Phillips

Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt
Mrs. Wendell L. Willkie
Carl Spaatz
Benjamin O. Davis
Forest A. Harness
Thomas North, *Secretary*

Former Members

John J. Pershing	1923-48	Mrs. Henry Fenimore Baker	1930-53
Robert G. Woodside	1923-53	Burnet R. Maybank	1946-53
David A. Reed	1923-47	Joseph C. Baldwin	1946-53
J. P. B. Clayton Hill	1923-41	Edward C. Kalbfus	1947-53
Thomas W. Miller	1923-26	Harold A. Keats	1950-53
Mrs. Frederic W. Bentley	1923-29	Joseph J. Foss	1953-55
D. John Markey	1923-53	X. H. Price, <i>Secretary</i>	1923-38
Finis J. Garrett	1926-53		

Consulting Architects

Paul P. Cret (World War I program)
Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson (World War II program)

Consulting Landscape Architect

Markley Stevenson (World War II program)

Consulting Sculptor

Lee Lawrie (World War II program)

